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Public Utility Commission of Texas

2006 FEB -7 PM 1:33

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Federal Communications Commission
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Marlene H. Dortch - Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W. - TWA 325
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Irene Flannery - Vice-President of High Cost and Low Income Divisions
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L. Street, NW - Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036

February 7, 2006

RE: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45

TPUC Docket No. (2448) - Designation of Common Carriers as Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to receive Federal Universal Funds Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Fourteenth Report and Order Adopting A State Certification Process

TPUC Project No. 25787 - FCC Letters Regarding ETC Designation Pursuant to FTA '96 §214(e) (2)

TPUC Docket No. 32142 - Application of Texas RSA 8 South Limited Partnership d/b/a Westex Wireless for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier

Texas RSA 8 South Limited Partnership d/b/a Westex Wireless - Annual Affidavit

On January 20, 2006, the Texas Public Utility Commission (TPUC) issued a letter regarding designation of Texas RSA South Limited Partnership d/b/a Westex Wireless (Westex Wireless) as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the study area of Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and the Verizon Southwest, Inc. exchange of Sterling City pursuant to Section 214(e) (2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the

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"Act") and 47 C.F.R. sections 54.201 – 54.203. The TPUC's *Order*, Docket No. 32142, issued on January 25, 2006, granted this designation.

On February 1, 2006, Westex Wireless filed the attached letter and affidavit of J.R. Wilson, General Manager, which attests to the company's intent to use the federal support within its study area for provision of the designated services required by 47 C.F.R. §54.101. This document is forwarded to your attention pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§54.313 – 54.314 for the purpose of calculating federal universal service support for Westex Wireless.

If you require any additional information please call Rosemary McMahon at (512)-936-7244.

Sincerely,



Rosemary McMahon – Lead Analyst
Communication Industry Oversight Division - Texas Public Utility Commission

cc: attachment

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2006 FEB -1 PM 1:27

February 1, 2006

Mr. James R. Galloway
Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: Docket No. 24481 – Designation of Common Carriers as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers to Receive Federal Universal Service Funds Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Fourteenth Report and Order Adopting a State Certification Process

Dear Mr. Galloway:

On behalf of Texas RSA 8 South Limited Partnership d/b/a Westex Wireless, (Westex Wireless or the Company), enclosed please find the original and nine (9) copies of an affidavit, pursuant to P.U.C. SUBST. R. §26.418(j) and Orders No. 1 and 2 in the above-mentioned docket. Westex Wireless respectfully requests that the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) certify to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) **on or before March 24, 2006** that effective January 25, 2006 the Company is eligible to receive federal high cost support throughout 2006.

Westex Wireless was designated an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) by order dated January 25, 2006 in Docket No. 32142. As a competitive ETC, Westex Wireless has been assigned Study Area Code (SAC) 449036.

Each ETC is required by P.U.C. SUBST. R. §26.418(j)(1) to file an affidavit annually with the PUC by September 1 that the carrier is complying with the federal requirements for the receipt of federal universal service support. Upon receipt and acceptance of this affidavit, the PUC certifies the carrier's eligibility for federal universal service support to the FCC and USAC by October 1. This certification enables the ETC to receive high cost support for the first, second, third, and fourth quarters of the succeeding year. However, P.U.C. SUBST. R. §26.418(j)(2) provides that carriers not meeting the September 1 deadline may be subsequently certified by the PUC as eligible for receipt of federal high-cost universal service support. Because Westex Wireless' ETC designation was after September 1, the Company requests this subsequent certification.

Mr. James R. Galloway
February 1, 2006
Page 2 of 2

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.314(d)(6)(vi), filing of the PUC's certification letter with the FCC and USAC on or before March 24, 2006 will permit Westex Wireless to receive federal universal service support as of the effective date of its ETC designation. If the PUC's certification to the FCC and USAC is not filed until after March 24, 2006, Westex Wireless will not be able to receive federal universal service support retroactive to its ETC designation effective date, but will only receive high-cost loop support for the third and/or fourth quarters of 2006, depending upon when the PUC's certification is received by the FCC and USAC. (See 47 C.F.R. §54.314(d).)

Westex Wireless respectfully requests that the PUC certify to the FCC and USAC that the Company has attested that high cost support from the federal universal service fund will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended and is eligible to receive such support effective January 25, 2006. The Company also requests that the certification be filed with the FCC and USAC on or before March 24, 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (512) 343-2544.

Sincerely,



Jean Langkop
Authorized Representative for
Westex Wireless

JL/pjf

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Rosemary McMahon, Communications Industry Oversight, PUC
Mr. J. R. Wilson, Westex Wireless

DOCKET NO. 24481

DESIGNATION OF COMMON CARRIERS	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
AS ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS	§	
CARRIERS (ETC) TO RECEIVE FEDERAL	§	
UNIVERSAL FUND PURSUANT TO THE	§	OF TEXAS
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS	§	
COMMISSION'S FOURTEENTH REPORT	§	
AND ORDER ADOPTING A STATE	§	
CERTIFICATION PROCESS	§	

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF MARTIN

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared J.R.Wilson of Texas RSA 8 South Limited Partnership d/b/a Westex Wireless, who on his oath deposed and said:

1. My name is J.R. Wilson. I am employed by Westex Wireless in the position of General Manager. In this position, I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service support received by the Company and how the Company uses these funds.


2. Westex Wireless was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) by the Public Utility Commission of Texas in Docket No. 32142, by order dated January 25, 2006. Westex Wireless is a competitive ETC.

3. The Federal Universal Service support funds received by Westex Wireless are used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act.

These funds will be used to provide the following supported services as designated in 47 C.F.R. §54.101 which are available throughout the Company's study area:

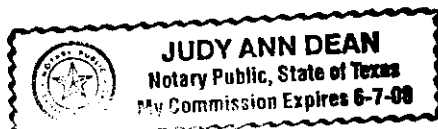
- (a) voice grade access to the public switched network;
- (b) local usage;
- (c) dual-tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent;
- (d) single party service, or its functional equivalent;
- (e) access to emergency services, including 911 service and enhanced 911 service to the extent the local government in the eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems;
- (f) access to operator services;
- (g) access to interexchange service;
- (h) access to directory assistance; and,
- (i) toll limitation for qualifying low-income customers.


4. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.



J.R. Wilson

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this 31st day of JANUARY, 2006.





Notary Public
State of Texas